

# FORWARD ERROR CORRECTION IN PACKET NETWORKS

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Methods and apparatus are provided to allow reliable data transport in a packet-based network. A network node encodes error correction packets associated with data packets at a network-layer and forwards the error correction packets with the data packets. The error correction packets are decoded as needed to recover data packets  
10 lost or dropped during transmission. The mechanisms are applicable for unicast and multicast networks and function even with network topology changes.